

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing fiber-reinforced moldings, the method comprising: performing a manufacturing procedure from a mixing of components to a procedure of pressing a molding in a continuous manner of operation by the following process steps:

mixing a thickening agent with a resin mixture;

spreading the resin mixture onto a lower belt and an upper belt, to form lower and upper resin mixture layers;

depositing, onto the lower resin mixture layer, fibers selected from the group consisting of chopped glass fibers and/or long fibers, and bringing together the lower and upper resin mixture layers and conveying them into a kneading and imbibing system in a resin mat apparatus to form an endless resin mat;

for a time-prescribed maturation process, carrying the endless resin mat in a meander by the lower and upper belts through a controlled-temperature, continuous thickening unit, wherein no further maturation process is performed after the endless resin mat is released from the lower and upper belts;

~~maintaining the endless resin mat between the lower and upper belts until the endless resin mat is ready to be used in a heated molding press; and~~

dividing the endless resin mat into predetermined patterns, feeding the patterns to the heated molding press, and pressing the patterns to form moldings.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that a maturation process time is established by a selectable length of belt supports in the continuous thickening unit and a rate of production.

Claims 3-5 (canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the continuous thickening unit is enclosed.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of carrying the endless resin mat through a controlled-temperature, continuous thickening unit comprises passing the endless resin mat over controlled-temperature, elongated belt supports.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising carrying the endless resin mat without interposing a film between the endless resin mat and a respective one of the lower and upper belts.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for continuously manufacturing fiber-reinforced moldings, the method comprising the following process steps:

mixing a thickening agent with a resin mixture;

spreading the resin mixture onto a lower belt and an upper belt without interposing a film between the resin mixture and a one of the lower and upper respective belts, to form lower and upper resin mixture layers;

depositing, onto the lower resin mixture layer, fibers selected from the group consisting of chopped glass fibers and/or long fibers, and bringing together the lower and upper resin mixture layers and conveying them into a kneading and imbibing system in a resin mat apparatus to form an endless resin mat;

carrying the endless resin mat in a meander by the lower and upper belts through a controlled-temperature, continuous thickening unit for a time-prescribed maturation process, wherein no further maturation process is performed after the endless resin mat is released from the lower and upper belts; and

dividing the endless resin mat into predetermined patterns, feeding the patterns to a heated molding press, and pressing the patterns to form moldings;

wherein each of the lower and upper belts comprise an endless belt that extends from a location where the resin mixture is spread and the fibers are deposited to a location proximate where the endless resin mat is divided.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, further comprising a step of maintaining the endless resin mat between the lower and upper belts until the endless resin mat has matured.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the carrying step includes carrying the endless resin mat without interposing a film between the endless resin mat and a respective one of the lower and upper belts.
12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the carrying step includes passing the endless resin mat over controlled-temperature, elongated belt supports.